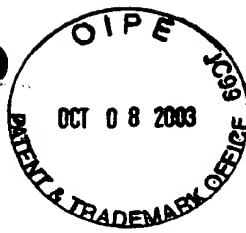


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"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING
GROUP 1755

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
MICHIIYASU KOMATSU : EXAMINER: GROUP, K. E.
SERIAL NO: 09/805,035 :
FILED: MARCH 14, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1755
FOR: SILICON NITRIDE WEAR :
RESISTANT MEMBER AND
MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

OCT 14 2003

TC 1700

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated August 8, 2003, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Discussion of the Amendment begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.